

# Individual, organizational and community benefits of creating a network of excellence of pediatric cardiac care in LMICs.

## Developing A Network Of Centers Of Excellence In Pediatric Cardiac Care From Low- And Middle-income Countries

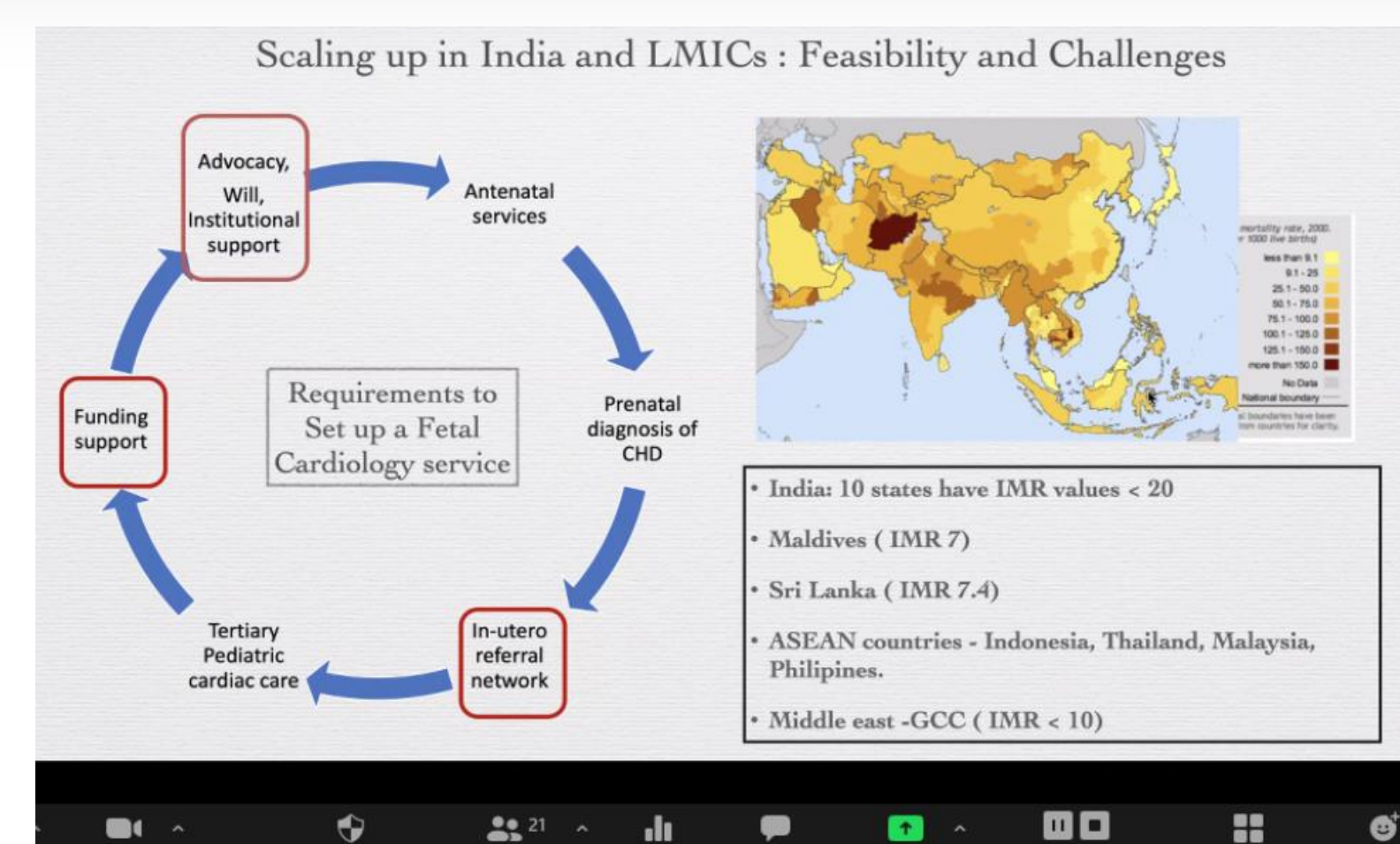
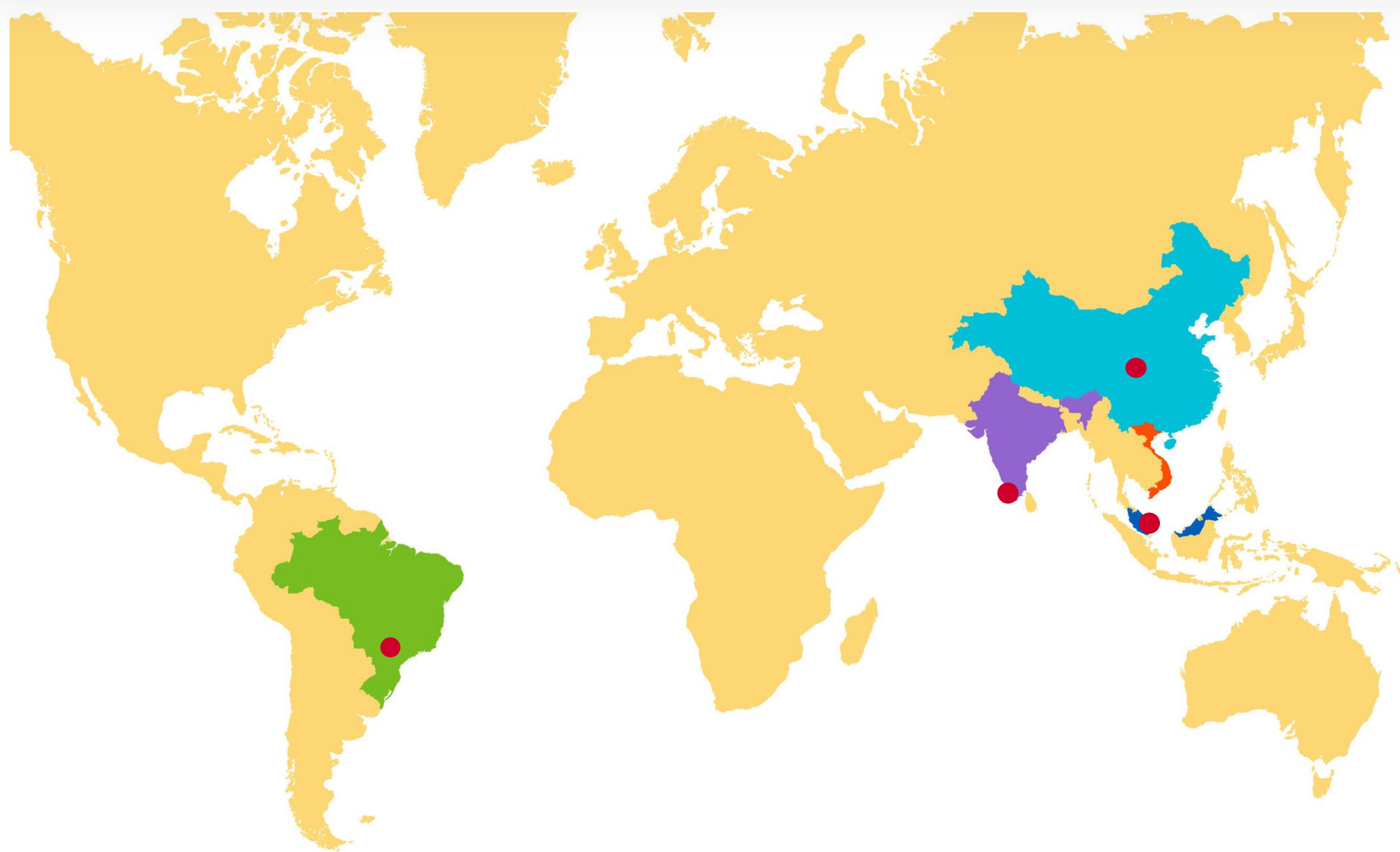
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**Background:** The Children's HeartLink Center of Excellence (CoE) Collaborative creates a community of leaders in pediatric cardiac care from low-and-middle-income countries (LMICs). The collaborative is intended to help grow equitable access to quality pediatric cardiac care by advancing global knowledge sharing. These experts with deep knowledge of the LMIC context from Brazil, China, Malaysia and India build capacity through peer-to-peer learning and concepts of improvement science.

### Methods

The collaborative members meet virtually on a monthly basis to share experiences, learn from each other's expertise and identify opportunities to address shared challenges of practicing pediatric cardiac care in a low-resource environment. The collaborative methodology was established by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement and informs the collaborative's structure and goals.



**Result 1:** The Collaborative has succeeded in establishing engagement and designing their future.

The CoE Collaborative has met 13 times, discussed four clinical topics and produced two practice guides. These conversations, guides, and studies have the potential to impact the field of PCC care in LMICs.

**Result 2:** Development of guidance grounded in LMIC settings.

Participants shared that the Collaborative is providing benefits to the field of pediatric cardiac care in LMICs through establishing benchmarks, protocols, and standards for pediatric cardiac care that are grounded in the realities LMICs face. The Collaborative is planning to develop new clinical resources, such as protocols and joint research projects.

## Conclusion

**Participation in the CoE Collaborative brings positive impacts to the participating leaders, their institutions, and the world of pediatric cardiac care in low-resource environments.**

Leaders have an opportunity to learn from their peers about best-practices in resource constrained environments, and their hospital organizations benefit from being able to implement best practices across the globe. The field of pediatric cardiac care in low-resource settings is benefitted by the identification of nuanced practice in similar settings, standardized best practices from peer hospitals, and publication of practice guides. With increased opportunities for learning and sharing from one another, hospitals in low-resource settings can accelerate their progress and innovate the world of pediatric cardiac care in LMICs.